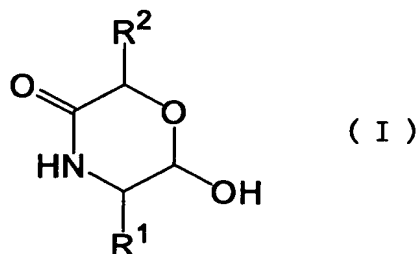


## Claims

1. A compound represented by the formula (I)

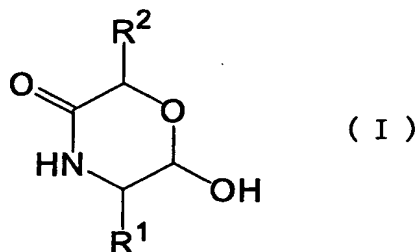


wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each a lower alkyl group optionally  
5 having substituents, or a salt thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein  $R^2$  is a lower alkyl group  
substituted by an aromatic hydrocarbon group, or a salt  
thereof.

10

3. A compound represented by the formula (I)



wherein  $R^1$  is a lower alkyl group optionally having  
substituents,  $R^2$  is a lower alkyl group, or a salt thereof.

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4. The compound of claim 3, wherein  $R^2$  is a lower alkyl group  
having 3 or 4 carbon atoms, or a salt thereof.

5. The compound of claim 4, wherein the lower alkyl group is  
20 isopropyl or isobutyl, or a salt thereof.

6. The compound of any of claims 1 to 5, wherein  $R^1$  is a lower  
alkyl group having substituent(s), or a salt thereof.

- 25 7. The compound of claim 6, wherein the substituent(s) that  
the lower alkyl group has is an aromatic hydrocarbon group

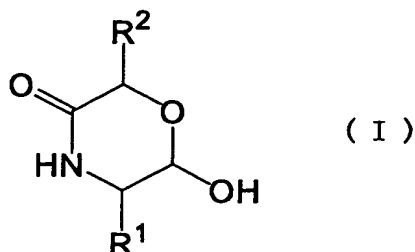
optionally having substituents, or a salt thereof.

8. The compound of claim 7, wherein the aromatic hydrocarbon group is an aromatic hydrocarbon group substituted by a group  
5 selected from the group consisting of a hydroxy group, a lower alkoxy group, a cyclohexylmethoxy group, a halogen atom and a phenyl group.

9. The compound of claim 7 or 8, wherein the aromatic  
10 hydrocarbon group is a phenyl group or 2-naphthyl group.

10. (2S,5S)-5-Benzyl-6-hydroxy-2-(2-methylpropyl)-3-morpholinone.

15 11. A medicine comprising a compound represented by the formula (I)



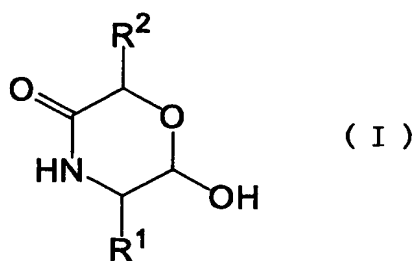
wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are each a lower alkyl group optionally having substituents, or a salt thereof.

20

12. The medicine of claim 11, which is a calpain inhibitor.

13. The medicine of claim 12, which is an agent for the prophylaxis or treatment of a disease in which calpain is  
25 involved.

14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound represented by the formula (I)

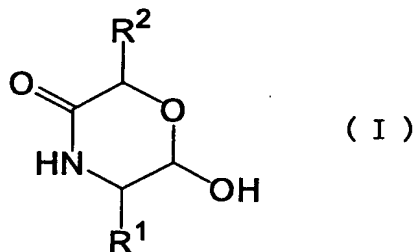


wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each a lower alkyl group optionally having substituents, or a salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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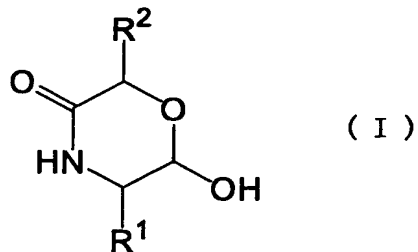
15. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, which is a calpain inhibitor.

16. A method for treating a disease in which calpain is  
10 involved, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound represented by the formula (I)



wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each a lower alkyl group optionally having substituents, or a salt thereof, to a mammal in need of  
15 the treatment.

17. Use of a compound represented by the formula (I)



wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each a lower alkyl group optionally  
20 having substituents, or a salt thereof, as a calpain inhibitor.